

to them all the information they have compiled about their child. List vendors would also have to turn over to the parents the name of anyone to whom they have distributed personal information about their child.

The bill also forces list vendors to be more diligent about verifying the identity of companies and individuals seeking to buy lists of children. Specifically, it would be a criminal offense for a list vendor to provide personal information about children to anyone it has reason to believe would use that information to harm a child.

This provision also addresses a shocking practice recently uncovered at a Minnesota prison. A prisoner, who was serving time for molesting a child, was compiling a detailed list of children—including not only their names, ages and addresses but such personal information as “latchkey child,” “cute” or “pudgy.” Authorities believe he was planning to sell the list to pedophiles over the Internet.

The bill also requires list brokers to match their data against the list of missing children held by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. This provision should help the center fulfill its important mission of finding children who have been kidnaped or exploited.

Finally, there is a provision in the bill to address yet another alarming practice going on in prison. A commercial list company had a contract with a Texas prison for data entry services. Prisoners—including child molesters and pedophiles—were being handed personal information about children to enter into a computer data base. Although that company no longer uses prison labor, our bill would make it unlawful to engage in this dangerous practice.

Prisoners and convicted sex offenders would never again have access to personal information about children.

The bill has the support a broad cross-section of organizations who are dedicated to protecting children including the PTA, privacy groups, and family groups.

Last September, the Crime Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee held a hearing on the bill. It's enactment this year is one of my top priorities for this Congress.

Parents are rightfully concerned about the unrestricted sale of their children's data. When parents in my district learn about what happens to data they provide about their children, they are shocked and outraged. The latest Harris/Westin survey showed that 97 percent of people believe it is unacceptable to rent or sell names and addresses of children provided when purchasing products or registering to use a website. Moreover, at the recent FTC hearing on online privacy, the Direct Marketing Association and many industry leaders stated that parental notice and consent should be the standard in collecting and selling children's data in the online world. This should also be the standard in the offline world.

In today's high-tech information age—when access to information on our personal lives is just a keystroke or phone call away—our children need the special protection this legislation provides.

A TRIBUTE TO RABBI ELIJAH J. SCHOCHET

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rabbi Elijah J. Schochet for 36 years of dedicated service and leadership in our community and for his distinguished family life and academic achievement.

Rabbi Schochet graduated cum laude from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1955 and then attended Columbia University for further studies in psychology. He soon determined, like his father and grandfather, that he was bound for theological studies and went on to be ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary and to receive his doctorate in rabbinic literature under his distinguished mentor Prof. Saul Lieberman. His impressive educational background has helped him to provide spiritual aid to many in our community.

In addition to his rabbinical training, Rabbi Schochet is a licensed marriage and child counselor in the State of California. His other accomplishments include the founding of the Kadima Hebrew Academy in the West Valley. Because he believes that education is the key to success, Rabbi Schochet attempts to give every member of our community the chance to expand on this precious gift by teaching.

Rabbi Schochet is a proud husband, to his wife Penina, father to his three children and grandfather to his five grandchildren. He gives freely of his love to his own family, his congregation, and to the students at the Kadima Hebrew Academy.

He is a true believer that “Man is worthy of being called Man only if he is charitable.” Rabbi Schochet is indeed giving of his love and knowledge. Thus it is an honor to join the family, friends, and congregation of the Shomrei Torah Synagogue in recognizing Rabbi Elijah J. Schochet for his dedicated years of service to our community.

“LESSONS IN LIFE”

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I read with interest an article which recently appeared in the Plain Dealer newspaper in my congressional district. The article is entitled “Lessons in Life From a Loving Man—Grandpa.” In the article, April McClellan-Copeland, a reporter for the newspaper, reflects on the life and legacy of her grandfather, William J. Ware, Sr.

During his lifetime, Mr. Ware was well-known and respected throughout the Cleveland community. Despite the color barrier and other obstacles which confronted him in the 1930's, William Ware successfully opened his own firm, Ware Plumbing and Heating Co. He did so because of his strong belief in black Americans acquiring economic power. From a 30-year battle for the right to join the plumber's union, to teaching his children and grandchildren the importance of education, this trailblazer was, in his granddaughter's words, “* * * a renaissance man, ahead of his time.”

Mr. Speaker, reading the article by April McClellan-Copeland brought back fond memories. William J. Ware, Sr., was a friend and someone whom I greatly admired. He was also a stalwart civil rights fighter who taught us many lessons. I am pleased that Ms. McClellan-Copeland decided to honor her grandfather with the writing of this special article. I take pride in sharing “Lessons in Life” with my colleagues and others across the Nation.

[From the Plain Dealer]

LESSONS IN LIFE FROM A LOVING MAN—
GRANDPA

(By April McClellan-Copeland)

In Maya Angelou's book “Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now,” Angelou explains how she contemplates the death of her loved ones by asking the question, “What legacy was left that can help me in the art of living a good life?”

On the night my 95-year-old grandfather, William J. Ware Sr., died in April, I didn't have to ask myself that question. All I had to do was scan the faces of my family members who sat in the hospital waiting room to see the rich legacy Grandpa left behind.

It didn't matter whether it was family, friends or business associates, Grandpa Ware inspired others with his strength, his integrity and the honor by which he lived his life.

William J. Ware Sr. was a trailblazer. After graduating from Tuskegee Institute in Alabama in 1928, the trail led Grandpa to Cleveland, where as a plumbing contractor he opened his own firm, Ware Plumbing & Heating Co.

In 1947, when Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball, Grandpa had been working for more than 10 years to knock down the formidable racial barriers that stood in the way of his membership in the plumbers union. Grandpa fought for equal rights at a time when racists lynched black men for sport.

Grandpa launched the fight for his union membership in 1933. He knew that with a union shop he could get larger jobs. And he also knew that he was just as skilled if not more so than the men who belonged to the union.

Finally after 30 years, anonymous death threats and the threat of being blacklisted, Grandpa was one of the first blacks to be admitted into Local 55.

IMPORTANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The achievements of my grandfather and other strong black men, though they may not have been as monumental in scale as Jackie Robinson's achievement, were just as important. My grandfather and many black men of his time were role models—they raised successful families, spent decades in loving relationships with their wives and made contributions to their communities despite the harrowing adversities they faced because of their color.

William J. Ware Sr. was one of 12 children whose parents were farmers and whose grandparents' homeland was the island of Madagascar off the southeastern coast of Africa.

He left home in Demopolis, Ala., at an early age to “set out on a mission” that would take him to Tuskegee. Grandpa and my grandmother Naomi were college sweethearts and married in 1929. They were married for more than 50 years before she died in 1979.

I liked my grandfather's style. He was a renaissance man, ahead of his time. He wore his signature bolo ties and a beret cocked to the side before it was stylish.

Garlic was part of Grandpa's daily diet. Despite its pungent odor, he was convinced it